ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

CHEROKEE COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOL

ASSOCIATION,

HELD AT

CEDAR BLUFF, ALABAMA,

AUGUST 12, 13 AND 14, 1891.

OFFICERS FOR 1892.

ROBERT S. HUDSON, President, Gaylesville.
W. H. HARWELL, Recording Secretary, Centre.
MISS LIZZIE SMITH, Corresponding Sec'y, Centre.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

G. W. R. BELL, Chairman.
MISS CALLIE RUSSELL, Gaylesville.
MRS. M. N. BURNETT, Cedar Bluff.

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MINUTES.

CEDAR BLUFF, ALABAMA, August 12, 1891.

Pursuant to a call of the Executive Committee, the Cherokee County Sunday School Association met at Cedar Bluff, Ala., at 11 o'clock A. M., Wednesday, August 12, 1891, and was called to order by the President, Robert S. Hudson.

Opeing song, No. 35, Gospel Songs.

Prayer by G. W. R. Bell.

The roll was then called and the following delegates responded:

Clifton's Chapel—Miss Maggie McGee and G. W. McGee.

Cedar Hill—Miss Etta Mackey, Miss Geneva Morrison, Miss Della Hale and Miss Cora Childress.

Cedar Bluff—Mrs. M. F. Witt. Mrs. Alice Smith, Joe Cortledge and J. F. Burnett.

Yancey's Bend—Miss Emma Bishop, J. T. Jerkin, L. M. Bishop and Miss Dona Tucker.

Oak Bowery—G. W. R. Bell.

Gaylesville (Union)—R T. Russell, E. W. Berry, Miss Josie Witherspoon and Miss Minnie Cobb.

Gaylesville (M. E.)—Miss Lula McElrath, Miss Emma Coker, E. W. Berry and J. Wes Coker.

Centre—W. L Smith, Joe D. McGhee, Miss Lizzie Smith and W. H. Harwel .

Pleasant Hill—E. H. Emerson.

Yellow Creek—Mrs. J. T. Richardson and Mrs. Mandy St. Clair.

Unity—Miss Alice Webb and Miss Zella Smith.

No representation from the following schools, to-wit: Bethlehem, Mount Zion, Hopewell, Mount Pleasant, Round Mountain, Antioch, Spring Place, New Hope, Ebenezer, Liberty, Lebanon, Union Grove, Hurricane Creek, Fairview, Tate's Chapel, Sand Valley, Shady Grove, Bothwell, Chattooga and Milledgeville.

On motion the President appointed the following committee on program: G. W. R. Bell, J. F. Burnett and E. W. Berry.

Song by thirteen little girls from Yancey Bend Sunday school, led by L. M. Bishop, which was highly complimented by addresses from R. S. Hudson, G. W. R. Bell and others.

Welcome address by Mrs. M. N. Burnett.

Response by G. W. R. Bell.

G. W. R. Bell made report of Executive Committee, which was adopted.

Report of committee on program adopted.

The President addressed the Association at length, in which he insisted upon the delegates being punctual.

On motion Convention adjourned till 2 P. M.

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2 P. M.

The Convention was called to order by the President.

Prayer by T. B. Morrison.

Song.

Discussion, "The origin, aim and progress of the Cherokee County Sunday School Association," led by M. M. Russell, continued by G. W. R. Bell and others.

Discussion, "Are the results from the Association of sufficient interest and worth to perpetuate the organization?" led by G. W. R. Bell, continued by R. S. Hudson, L. M. Bishop and M. M. Russell.

Song, "All hail the power of Jesus' name."

On motion the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved by the Convention, That the President be authorized to appoint a committee of three to draft resolutions of respect upon the death of Dr. Ellis W. Ward, deceased.

Song by the children.

Report of committee on program adopted.

Song.

On motion Convention adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock Thursday morning.

MORNING SESSION—SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, August 13, 1891.

Convention called to order at 9 o'clock by G. W. R. Bell, the President, on account of sickness, not being able to preside.

Prayer by J. Wes Coker.

Welcome address in behalf of Cedar Bluff Sunday School by Miss Myrtle Witt.

Response by G. W. R. Bell.

Song, No. 155, Gospel Songs.

Essays by Misses Lizzie Smith and Haynie Smyer. Subject: "The Toils and Triumphs of the Sunday School Work."

Song by the children.

Essay from T. F. Stewart, "The Importance of Securing the Attendance of Parents at our Sunday Schools," read by the Secretary.

Reports of Vice Presidents being in order, verbal reports were heard from G. S. McGee and G. W. R. Bell.

Song, No. 131, Prayer and Praise.

The chair appointed the following committee to draft resolutions of respect on the death of Dr. E. W. Ward: Mrs. M. N. Burnett, R. T. Russell and Miss Lizzie Smith.

Song by the children.

On motion Convention adjourned till 2 o'clock P. M.

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2. P. M.

Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Song, No. 33, Prayer and Praise.

Prayer.

Essay on "Temperance" by Mrs. J. H. Gillespie.

Song, "Bringing in the Sheaves."

REPORT OF TREASURER.

W. A. Smyer in Acct with Cherokee Co. S. S. Association	DR.	CR.
To amt on hand August 15, 1890	$35.16	.....
To amt received August 16, 1890	12.77	.....
To amt received August 12, 1891	12.96	.....
By amt paid S. L. Russell, 1891	... .	$15.00
By amt paid for publishing minutes, 1890..	.... .	18.70
Amount on hand August 14, 1891	$27.19	

Essay by Mrs. J. E. DeArmond, subject: "The Importance of Making the Sunday School Religious."

Song, "Coronation."

Discussion of various topics by J. Wes Coker, J. D. Jerkin, G. W. R. Bell, L. M. Bishop and others.

Song, "Hold the Fort."

On motion the chair appointed the following committee to select and report a corps of officers for the ensuing year: J. F. Burnett, O. L. Russell, J. Wes Coker, R. T. Russell, G. S. McGee, Miss Josie Witherspoon, Miss Lizzie Smith, Miss Allie Webb, J. E. Stewart and E. R. White.

On motion convention adjourned to meet at 9 o'clock Friday morning.

MORNING SESSION—THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY, August 14, 1891.

Convention met at 9 o'clock and was called to order by Rev. S. L. Russell.

Prayer by Rev. S. L. Russell.

Address by Rev. S. L. Russell, subject: "The Work and Worth of Sunday School Work."

Report of committee on officers for ensuing year as follows was adopted:

President—Robert S. Hudson, Gaylesville.

Recording Secretary—W. H. Harwell, Centre.

Corresponding Secretary—Miss Lizzie Smith, Centre.

Executive Committee—G. W. R. Bell, Chairman; Miss Callie Russell, Gaylesville; Mrs. M. N. Burnett, Cedar Bluff.

Vice Presidents—Will Cook, Howel's X Roads; E. B. Lindsey, Forney; J. R. Billingsley, Bluffton; T. F. Stewart, Spring Garden; J. K. Weyman, Whorton; G. P. Smith, Centre; T. B. Williams, Coloma; J. F. Hoge, Plano; W. L. Daniel, Leesburg; J. B. Morrison, Leesburg; J. W. Todd, Sand Rock; L. M. Bishop, Cedar Bluff; J. Wes. Coker, Gaylesville; E. H. Emerson, Taff; J. W. McCullough, Ringgold; C. T. Clarkson, Jamestown; M. E. Westbrook, Gaylesville; O. L. Russell, Lawrence; J. P. Rosser, Exie; Mrs. J. T. Richardson, Round Mountain; William Blackburn, Broomtown; Elisha Bobo, Ego.

Discussion, "Importance of Parents Attending the Sunday School," by J. Wes. Coker and L. M. Bishop.

On motion the chair appointed R. S. Hudson and Mrs. M. N. Burnett delegates to the State Sunday School Association.

Alternates, Miss Lizzie Smith and W. H. Harwell.

On motion the chair appointed J. F. Burnett, G. P.

Smith and W. H. Harwell as a committee on publication of Minutes.

Song, "I Want to be a Worker for the Lord."

On motion the following resolution was adopted:

Be it resolved by this convention, That we, as a partial evidence of our appreciation, tender to the good people of Cedar Bluff and vicinity our heartfelt gratitude for their presence during our sessions, the kind welcome they have given us and for their generous hospitalities on the grounds and at their homes."

RESOLUTIONS ON THE DEATH OF DR. WARD.

The Committee appointed by the Cherokee County Sunday School Association, in annual session at Cedar Bluff, beg leave to submit the following preamble and resolution in regard to the death of Dr. Ellis W. Ward, who departed this life May 1st, 1891:

Whereas, It has pleased Him, who doeth all things well, to remove from our midst this highly esteemed brother and co-worker, Dr. Ellis W. Ward, whose rare endowments and decision of character in connection with deep piety rendered him one of the most zealous and influential Vice-Presidents of the Cherokee County Sunday School Association, and who was always (before his demise) present at the meetings of the Association with a report of good work done for the Master, and ever prepared to counsel and encourage the weak and faint-hearted; and as his influence in every department of life was always pure, noble and elevating, therefore be it

Resolved, 1st, That this convention as a body and as individuals emulate his zeal in every good word and work, and especially in the Sunday School cause.

2d. That we as citizens and christians endeavor to imitate his noble efforts to elevate and christianize the youths of our land by instilling and cultivating in their minds and hearts such principles as will cause their actions to reflect a beneficial influence upon the morals of our country, and also cause them to act with especial reference to the reward of the finally faithful.

3d. That this Convention, though sadly feeling the loss of their co-worker in this department of the Lord's vineyard, will endeavor to bow in meek submission to the will of Him whose wisdom and love are infinite, remembering the words of our blessed Savior in reference to His own departure; John 14:1-3.

4th. That a copy of this preamble and these resolutions be printed in the Minutes of this Convention, and a copy of same be sent to the bereaved wife and family, assuring them that they have sympathy of this Convention, with the prayer that the grace of God may sustain them while passing through the deep waters of this affliction; and that their loved one will always be remembered by this body as being one of those of whom it is said, "Though he be dead he yet speaketh."

MISS LIZZIE SMITH,
R. T. RUSSELL,
MRS. M. N. BURNETT,
} Committee.

Pending a motion to adjourn, the Minutes were read and approved. The Committee then adjourned sine die, subject to a call of the Executive Committee.

S. L. RUSSELL, Chairman.

W. H. HARWELL, Secretary.

CONSTITUTION

OF THE

CHEROKEE COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be called the "Cherokee County Sunday School Association."

ART. 2. Any superintendent or other officer, teacher, or adult member of any Sunday School in Cherokee county may be a member of this Association and, being present at its meetings, be entltled to take part in the same.

ART. 3. The object of the Association shall be the promotion of the interests of Sunday Schools in this county, and the encouragement of their organization and maintenance by such means as shall best arouse the public to a sense of their value and importance.

ART. 4 The officers of the Association shall consist of a President, Vice-President representing (as far as practicable) each township in the county, a Corresponding Secretary, an Assistant Secretary, a Treasurer, and an Executive Committee of five members; the President and Corresponding Secretary being ex-officio members of the same.

ART. 5. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at the meetings of the Association, and in case of his absence a Vice-President shall take the chair.

ART. 6. The Corresponding Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of each meeting, together with a list of the Sunday Schools in the county, the name and post office address of the Superintendent, the number of teachers, schools, etc., and make a report at each annual meeting.

ART. 7. The Assistant Secretary shall write out the minutes of each meeting, and render the Corresponding Secretary such assistadce as may be necessary.

ART. 8 The Treasurer shall keep a faithful account of all monies collected and disbursed for the benefit of the Association, and report at each annual meeting.

ART. 9. The Vice-Presidents shall have the general supervision of the Sunday School interests in their townships; shall collect statistics, and report to the Corresponding Secretary at least ten days before the annual meeting; shall collect the funds from the respective schools and report the same to the Treasurer at the Convention. He should visit, semi-annually, all the schools in his territory. He should encourage schools already established, and organize undenominational schools in localities where needed. He should suggest any improvement he may think needful. He should, as far as possible, awaken an interest in better ways of working. He should direct the minds of all to the necessity for the conversion of pupils. He should urge the importance of teachers' meetings. He should inquire carefully how well the neighborhood has been canvassed for pupils. He should especially endeavor to impress the possibility and necessity of sustaining the schools during the entire year.

ART. 10. The Executive Committee shall arrange for the meetings of the Convention, select topics, arrange programmes, and invite such persons from abroad as may add to the interest of the Convention. They shall appoint a local committee in the place where the Convention is to be held, who shall provide for the sessions of the Convention and arrange for the entertainment of persons attending the Convention. It shall also be the duty of the Executive Committee to advance the work in the county by every means in their power during the entire year. They shall fill all vacancies occasioned by death or removal from the county. They shall suspend any officer failing to do his duty, and appoint a person who will do the work.

ART. 11. At each annual meeting of the Convention a committee shall be appointed to nominate officers who shall be elected by the Convention.

ART. 12. This Association is auxiliary to the State Sunday School Association, and shall, by the Secretary, make annual report thereto, and be represented by delegates in the Convention of that Association.

ART. 13. This Association shall meet in Convention annually, or oftener, upon the call of the Executive Committee.

ART. 14. This Constitution may be altered or amended by a vote of two-thirds of the delegates present at any annual meeting.

Adopted in the organization of the Association at Gaylesville, September 9, 1880.

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABOVE CONSTITUTION.

Amendment 1st, on Article 2—Ministers of the gospel regularly employed in the ministry of the gospel shall be admitted to membership in the Association. Adopted May 21, 1881.

Amendment 2d, on Article 2—The word "adult" is stricken out of this Article. Adopted May 21, 1881.

Amendment 3d, on delegation—Each Sunday School shall be allowed one delegate in the County Convention for twenty-five members, and one for every fifteen over twenty-five; provided that every school shall be entitled to one delegate, no matter how small. Adopted at a meeting held in Centre, July 13 and 14, 1882.

Amendment 4th, on delegation—Each Sunday school shall be allowed one delegate in the County Convention for every twenty-five members, and one for each fraction thereof over fifteen; provided, that every school shall be entitled to one delegate, no matter how small. Adopted July 25, 1883.

Amendment 5th, to Article 9—He shall make a report at the annual meeting of the Association of the work that he has done during the past year, including schools organized, and, other matters of duty under this article. Adopted July 31, 1885.

Amendment 6th, to Articles 4 and 9—The word "beat" is substituted for the word "township" wherever it occurs in said Articles 4 and 9.

BY-LAWS

OF THE

CHEROKEE COUNTY SUNDAY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION.

ADOPTED AT A MEETING HELD MAY 21, 1884.

RULE 1. The sessions of the Association shall be opened and closed with prayer.

RULE 2. After prayer the first item of business shall be the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting.

RULE 3. The business of the Association shall be transacted according to general parliamentary usage.

RULE 4. No person shall be allowed to consume more than five minutes in the discussion of any question, except by consent of the Chair.

RULE 5. Each school shall be requested to raise a tax of three cents per member annually for the necessary expenses of the Association.

RULE 6. These rules may be changed, amended, or added to, by a majority vote of the members present at any meeting.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Opening with prayer.
2. Reading minutes of previous meeting.
3. Enrollment of members.
4. Reports of standing committees.
5. Reports of Vice-Presidents.
6. Reports of special committees.
7. Report of Corresponding Secretary.
8. Appointment of committee to select officers.
9. General discussion of the work.
10. Report of committee to select officers.
11. Election of Delegates to State Convention.